



AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The amended claims supersede and replace the existing claims currently on file.

1. (Currently Amended) The method for registering and certifying an electronic message, said method comprising the steps of: a client accessing a website and establishing a registration account; a processing unit accepting said registration account, said processing unit assigning a code to said registration account of said client; said client selecting a service request; said processing unit receiving said client's service request; said processing unit sending said electronic message to said intended recipient as identified by said client in said registration account; said processing unit confirming the date said electronic message was sent by said processing unit to said intended recipient; said processing unit confirming the date said electronic message was received by said intended recipient; said processing unit creating a confirmation record; said processing unit creating a digital certificate containing the information of said confirmation record; said processing unit archiving said digital certificate information; and said processing unit sending said client said digital certificate.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said local computer system may be a remote fixed device or a remote portable device; whereby either said remote fixed device or said remote portable device access said website using the Internet or other Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol based network connectivity.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said processing unit further comprises said email database; said email database further comprising an information storage system; said information storage system further comprising a means to store data; said data further comprising said registration account data, said electronic message data, said sent date data, said received date data , and said confirmation record data.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said registration account data further comprises said client's name, said client's email address, said intended recipient's name, said intended recipient's email address, and the email delivery services requested by said client.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, whereby said email delivery services comprise said processing unit sending said electronic message from said client in the form of a registered email, or a certified email, or a return receipt email, or an email submission confirmation, or an email delivery confirmation to said intended recipient, and whereby said client may select archival of the email message in conjunction with the delivery service.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, whereby said registered email, said certified email, said confirmation record email, said email sent confirmation, and said email received confirmation are further comprised of said

registration account data and said electronic message.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, whereby said electronic message comprises at least one electronic data from the group including text data, audio data, visual data, electronic data, or an electronic attachment.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, whereby said website further comprises a means for said client to select said delivery services and to submit said electronic message in conjunction with said delivery services to said processing unit from said local computer system.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, whereby said processing unit further comprises a means to receive said electronic message from said local computer system and to send said electronic message to said intended recipient in accordance with said delivery services selected by said client in said registration account.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, whereby said processing unit further comprises a means to determine when said electronic message has been sent to said intended recipient and when said intended recipient has received said electronic message.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, whereby said processing unit

further comprises a means to verify when said electronic message was sent to said intended recipient and to verify when said electronic message was received by said intended recipient.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, whereby said processing unit compiles the submission and delivery confirmation data into said confirmation record; said confirmation record further comprising said registration account data.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, whereby said confirmation record is in the form of a digital certificate that is emailed to said client.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) The method for registering and certifying an electronic message, said method comprising the steps of: a client accessing a website and establishing a registration account; said processing unit accepting said registration account; said processing unit assigning a code to said registration account of said client; said client selecting a service request; said service request further comprising that said client's identity be withheld from the intended recipient; said processing unit receiving said service request from said client; said processing unit resending said electronic message to said intended

recipient as identified by said client in said registration account; said processing unit notifying said intended recipient that said electronic message has been sent on behalf of said client by said processing unit; said processing unit confirming the date said electronic message was sent by said processing unit; said processing unit confirming the date said electronic message was received by said intended recipient;; said intended recipient choosing whether or not to post a reply for said client with said processing unit; said processing unit accepting said reply, if posted; said processing unit creating a confirmation record; said processing unit creating a digital certificate containing the information of said confirmation record; said processing unit archiving said digital certificate information; said processing unit sending said client said digital certificate.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein said local computer system may be a remote fixed device or a remote portable device; whereby either said remote fixed device or said remote portable device access said website using the Internet or other Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol based network connectivity.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein said processing unit further comprises said email database; said email database further comprising an information storage system; said information storage system further comprising a means to store data; said data further comprising said registration account data, said electronic message data, said sent date data, said

received date data, and said confirmation record data.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein said registration account data further comprises said client's name, said client's email address, said intended recipient's name, said intended recipient's email address, and the email delivery services requested by said client; said delivery services further comprising a request by said client to have said client's identity withheld from said intended recipient.

19. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 18, whereby said email delivery services comprise said processing unit resending said electronic message from said client in the form of a registered email, or a certified email, or a return receipt email, or an email submission confirmation, or an email delivery confirmation to said intended recipient, and whereby said client may select archival of the email message in conjunction with the delivery service.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, whereby said registered email, said certified email, said confirmation record email, said email sent confirmation, and said email received confirmation are further comprised of said registration account data and said electronic message.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, whereby said electronic message comprises at least one electronic data from the group including text data, audio data, visual data, electronic data, or an electronic attachment.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, whereby said website further comprises a means for said client to select said delivery services and to submit said electronic message in conjunction with said delivery services to said processing unit from said local computer system.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, whereby said processing unit further comprises a means to receive said electronic message from said local computer system and to resend said electronic message to said intended recipient in accordance with said delivery services selected by said client in said registration account.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, whereby said processing unit further comprises a means to determine when said electronic message has been sent to said intended recipient and when said intended recipient has received said electronic message.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, whereby said processing unit further comprises a means for said intended recipient to post a reply for said client with said processing unit.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, whereby said processing unit further comprises a means to verify when said electronic message was sent

to said intended recipient and to verify when said electronic message was received by said intended recipient.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, whereby said processing unit compiles said submission confirmation, and said delivery confirmation data, and said reply posted by said intended recipient, into said confirmation record; said confirmation record further comprising said registration account data.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, whereby said confirmation record is in the form of a digital certificate that is emailed to said client.

29. (Currently Amended) The method for verifying the identity of an intended recipient of a registered or certified electronic message, , said method comprising the steps of: said client accessing a website and establishing a registration account; said processing unit accepting said registration account; said processing unit assigning a code to said registration account of said client; said client selecting a service request; said service request including a request for identity verification, said processing unit receiving said client service request, said processing unit notifying said intended recipient that said processing unit requires verification of said identity of said intended recipient; said processing unit obtaining said verification information of said identity of said intended recipient; said processing unit sending said electronic message to said

intended recipient as identified by said client in said service request; said processing unit confirming the date said electronic message was sent by said processing unit; said processing unit confirming the date said electronic message was received by said intended recipient; said processing unit creating a confirmation record; said processing unit creating a digital certificate containing the information of said confirmation record; said processing unit archiving said digital certificate information; and said processing unit sending said client said digital certificate.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein said local computer system may be a remote fixed device or a remote portable device; whereby either said remote fixed device or said remote portable device access said website using the Internet or other Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol based network connectivity.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein said processing unit further comprises said email database; said email database further comprising an information storage system; said information storage system further comprising a means to store data; said data further comprising said registration account data, said electronic message data, said sent date data, said received date data, said verification information data, and said confirmation record data.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein said registration

account data further comprises said client's name, said client's email address, said intended recipient's name, said intended recipient's email address, and the email delivery services requested by said client.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, whereby said email delivery services comprise said processing unit sending said electronic message from said client in the form of a registered email, or a certified email, or a return receipt email, or an email submission confirmation, or an email delivery confirmation to said intended recipient, and whereby said client may select archival of the email message in conjunction with the delivery service.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, whereby said registered email, said certified email, said confirmation record email, said email sent confirmation, and said email received confirmation are further comprised of said registration account data and said electronic message, and said verification information of said identity of said intended recipient.

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, whereby said processing unit notifies said intended recipient that said processing unit has an electronic message for said intended recipient, pending verification of said intended recipient's identity, as specified in said client service request.

36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 35 , whereby said processing

unit further notifies said intended recipient what verification information is required, as identified in said service request, and instructions for said intended recipient to submit said verification information to said processing unit in accordance with said service request.

37. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, whereby said verification information further comprises at least one of the group of: a digital certificate, or a personal identity paper, or a drivers license, or a passport or biometric information; said biometric information including at least one of the group of a thumbprint, or a voiceprint, or a retinal scan, or a graphical, hand-written signature.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, whereby said electronic message comprises at least one electronic data from the group including text data, audio data, visual data, electronic data, or an electronic attachment.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, whereby said website further comprises a means for said client to select said identity verification services, and to submit said electronic message in conjunction with said verification services and in conjunction with said delivery services to said processing unit from said local computer system.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, whereby said processing

unit further comprises a means to receive said electronic message from said local computer system and to send said electronic message to said intended recipient in accordance with said delivery services selected by said client in said registration account.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, whereby said processing unit further comprises a means to determine when said electronic message has been sent to said intended recipient and when said intended recipient has received said electronic message.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, whereby said processing unit further comprises a means to notify said client of when said electronic message was sent to said intended recipient and when said electronic message was received by said intended recipient.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, whereby said processing unit compiles the submission and delivery confirmation data into said confirmation record; said confirmation record further comprising said registration account data.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, whereby said confirmation record is in the form of a digital certificate that is emailed to said client.

45. (Canceled)

46. (New) The method of claim 15, whereby said processing unit clearly identifies the processing unit as the sender of the email, but not the originator of the email , in the form of an email to said intended recipient.

47. (New) The method of claim 46, whereby the processing unit clearly identifies a constant and verifiable email address of said processing unit and verifiable contact information of said processing unit, in said email to said intended recipient.

48. (New) The method of claim 46, whereby said intended recipient is notified that said intended recipient may choose to post a reply with said processing unit for the originator of said electronic message.

49. (New) The method of claim 15, whereby said processing unit forwards said reply from said intended recipient to said client.